IN THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of reading messages which are sent over a data bus in a motor vehicle between electronic units, comprising:

- providing at least one communications network based on at least one data bus to which several electronic units are connected by ~~means of~~ a bus interface,

- connecting the communications network with an external data processing unit by at least one data interface,

- storing of messages which were sent in the communications network in at least one cyclically overwritable, volatile storing means,

- examining the messages stored in the volatile storing means for selected, parameterizable attributes with at least one monitoring unit having an executable program,

- upon the occurrence of at least one definable trigger event, whose occurrence is monitored by the executable program, stopping the cyclical overwriting of the volatile storing means for at least as long until the data content of the volatile storing means is transferred to a second, non-volatile storing means.

2. (Original) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the definable trigger event may be read or exchanged over the data interface of the communications network.

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3.   (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim **1**, wherein the parameterizable attributes may be read or exchanged over the data interface of the communications network.

4.   (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim 1, including reading the data content of the non-volatile storing means [[is]], upon request by an external electronic data processing device, into the external electronic data processing device over the data interface of the communications network.

5.   (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 1, including forming the trigger event from a logic or time-related concatenation of the parameterizable attributes.

6.   (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim **1**, wherein the data bus is a CAN bus and the data interface is a serial interface or a modem interface.

7.   (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim **6**, wherein the modem interface is a mobile wireless interface based on the standards of SMS, GSM or GPRS.

8.   (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the parameterizable attributes are CAN identifier, error bits, error codes or selected travel data of the motor vehicle.

9.   (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 1, including defining and monitoring several trigger events.

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10. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 1, including after occurrence of a trigger event, effecting a notification to an external data processing device concerning the occurrence of the event.

11. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim 10, including reading the data content of the non-volatile storing means [[is]], after sending the notification,[[read]] into an external electronic data processing device at the request thereof.

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